

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-87 (Cancelled)

88. (Currently amended) A method for enabling access to a software product, communication to enable the access to the software product being between a user computer and a server computer, the user computer executing program instructions to enable the method, and orderly processing of operations from (a) to (f), the method comprising:

(a) initiating access to the server computer, the initiating causing creation, at the server computer, of a user public key and a user private key defining a user key pair at the server computer, the server computer communicating the user public key to the user computer, and the user key pair being generated using information from a specific user;

(b) creating at the user computer, a console public key and a console private key defining a console key pair;

(c) sending the console public key to the server computer, the console public key being encrypted using the user public key;

(d) forwarding a title ID to the server computer to enable access to the software product that is encrypted using a title public key, the title ID being encrypted using the user public key;

(e) obtaining a title private key that is asymmetrically double encrypted by the server computer using the console public key and the user private key, use of the console public key created at the user computer defining a first layer of encryption, use of the user private

key created at the server computer defining a second layer of encryption, the title private key and the title public key defining a title key pair; and

(f) decrypting the title public key encrypted software product using the title private key.

89. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 88, wherein the obtaining of the title private key is carried out at the user computer by decrypting the double encrypted title private key using the user public key and the console private key.

90. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 88, further comprising:

forwarding purchase information to the server computer; and

receiving from the server computer, an electronic token that permits use of the decrypted software product in a restricted manner.

91. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 88, wherein the initiating of the access to the server computer is carried out by forwarding user information specific to the user computer to the server computer

92. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 91, wherein the user key pair is created at the server computer based on the user information forwarded from the user computer.

93. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 88, wherein the console key pair is created by the user computer by using hardware identification means.

94. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling access to a software product, communication to enable the access to the software product being between a user computer and a server computer, the server computer executing program instructions to enable the method, and orderly processing the following method operations from (a) to (f), the method comprising:

(a) receiving user information from the user computer;

(b) creating, at the server computer, a user key pair including a user public key and a user private key, the creating being based on the user information, and forwarding the user public key to the user computer;

(c) obtaining a console public key from the user computer, the console public key being encrypted using the user public key, the console public key being a console key pair with a console private key that is maintained at the user computer;

(d) receiving a title ID from the user computer, the title ID identifying the software product for which access is desired, the title ID being encrypted by the user public key;

(e) retrieving a title private key based on the title ID received, the title private key being double encrypted by the server computer using the console public key and the user private key, use of the console public key created at the user computer defining a first layer of encryption, use of the user private key created at the server computer defining a second layer of encryption, the title private key and the title public key defining a title key pair; and

(f) forwarding the double encrypted title private key to the user computer so that the user computer can use the title private key to decrypt the software product encrypted by using the title public key.

95. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 94, further comprising:

receiving purchase information from the user computer;

creating an electronic token based on the purchase information; and

forwarding to the user computer, the electronic token that permits use of the decrypted software product in a restricted manner.

96. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 94, wherein the obtaining of the console public key from the user computer is carried out at the server computer by decrypting the user public key encrypted console public key with the user private key.

97. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 94, wherein the receiving of the title ID from the user computer is carried out at the server computer by decrypting the user public key encrypted title ID with the user private key.

98. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 94, wherein the title key pair is created by the server computer for the software product.

99. (previously presented) The method for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 94, wherein the double encrypted title private key is decrypted at the user computer using the user public key and the console private key.

100. (Currently Amended) A computer readable program tangibly embodied in computer readable media, the computer program including program instructions in a user computer for enabling access to a software product, communication to enable the access to the software product being between the user computer and a server computer, and orderly processing the program instructions from (a) to (g), comprising:

(a) program instructions for initiating access to the server computer, the initiating causing creation, at the server computer, of a user key pair including a user public key and a user private key, at the server computer, and the user key pair being generated using information from a specific user;

(b) program instructions for receiving the user public key communicated from the server computer;

(c) program instructions for creating a console key pair including a console public key and a console private key;

(d) program instructions for sending the console public key to the server computer, the console public key being encrypted using the user public key;

(e) program instructions for forwarding a title ID to the server computer to enable access to the software product that is encrypted using a title public key, the title ID being encrypted using the user public key;

(f) program instructions for obtaining a title private key that is asymmetrically double encrypted by the server computer using the console public key and the user private key, use of the console public key created at the user computer defining a first layer of encryption, use of the user private key created at the server computer defining a second layer of encryption, the title private key and the title public key defining a title key pair; and

(g) program instructions for decrypting the title public key encrypted software product using the title private key.

101. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a user computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 100, wherein the program instructions for obtaining of the title private key include program instructions for decrypting the double encrypted title private key by using the user public key and the console private key at the user computer.

102. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a user computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 100, further comprising:

program instructions for forwarding purchase information to the server computer; and

program instructions for receiving from the server computer, an electronic token that permits use of the decrypted software product in a restricted manner.

103. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a user computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 100, wherein the program instructions for initiating of the access to the server computer include program instructions for forwarding user information specific to the user computer to the server computer

104. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a user computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 103, wherein the user key pair is created by the server computer based on the user information forwarded from the user computer.

105. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a user computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 100, wherein the console key pair is created by the user computer by using hardware identification means.

106. (Currently amended) A computer readable program tangibly embodied in a server computer for enabling access to a software product, communication to enable the access to the software product being between a user computer and the server computer, the following program instructions being orderly processed from (a) to (h), comprising:

(a) program instructions for receiving user information from the user computer;

(b) program instructions for creating, at the server computer, a user key pair including a user public key and a user private key, the creating being based on the user information;

(c) program instructions for forwarding the user public key to the user computer;

(d) program instructions for obtaining a console public key from the user computer, the console public key being encrypted using the user public key, the console public key being a console key pair with a console private key that is maintained at the user computer;

(e) program instructions for receiving a title ID from the user computer, the title ID identifying the software product for which access is desired, the title ID being encrypted by the user public key;

(f) program instructions for retrieving a title private key based on the title ID received, the title private key and the title public key defining a title key pair;

(g) program instructions for double encrypting the title private key using the console public key and the user private key, use of the console public key created at the user computer defining a first layer of encryption, use of the user private key created at the server computer defining a second layer of encryption; and

(h) program instructions for forwarding the double encrypted title private key to the user computer so that the user computer can use the title private key to decrypt the software product encrypted by using the title public key.

107. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a server computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 106, further comprising:

program instructions for receiving purchase information from the user computer;

program instructions for creating an electronic token based on the purchase information; and

program instructions for forwarding to the user computer, the electronic token that permits use of the decrypted software product in a restricted manner.

108. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a server computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 106, wherein the program instructions for obtaining of the console public key from the user computer include program instructions for decrypting the user public key encrypted console public key with the user private key at the server computer.

109. (previously presented) The computer readable program tangibly embodied in a server computer for enabling access to a software product as recited in claim 106, wherein the program instructions for receiving of the title ID from the user computer include program instructions for decrypting the user public key encrypted title ID with the user private key at the server computer.